

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-CARRY RECIPROCITY ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 822) to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a national standard in accordance with which nonresidents of a State may carry concealed firearms in the State:

Mr. KIND. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of the National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Act, H.R. 822. Not only am I a proud cosponsor of this legislation but I am also a firm and committed supporter of Second Amendment rights. This legislation will ensure further protection of this vital right by allowing law abiding citizens to carry concealed weapons across state lines.

On November 1st of this year, Wisconsin became the 49th state to implement a concealed carry law. The first day the law went into effect, the Wisconsin State Department of Justice website had 400,000 hits and residents had downloaded 83,000 applications. It is clear that Wisconsinites were eager to take advantage of this new law. Given the strong interest this law has garnered in my state and in other states throughout the country, I believe that it is only logical to extend this right across state lines.

The bill allows law-abiding gun owners with valid state-issued concealed firearm permits or licenses to carry a concealed firearm in any other state that also allows concealed carry. In all actuality, with all but one state allowing concealed carry, this legislation doesn't break that much new ground. In fact, for the majority of states that have had concealed carry laws on the books for some time now; they have been recognizing permits from other states for years. As can be the case, the state by state approach has caused confusion. This legislation will eliminate any uncertainty by putting in place simple and concise federal policy.

This is a widely supported bill with 245 bipartisan House cosponsors. Given the strong support here in Congress and the increased interest in states throughout the country, it is my hope that the Senate will follow our lead and pass this legislation. It would be a great victory to have this become law this year.

DR. MANERT KENNEDY TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Corps Veteran Dr. Manert Kennedy. Dr. Kennedy was a professor at Adams State College and CU Boulder, where he

taught Genetics and Biology until retiring in 1995.

Dr. Kennedy is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. His career in education and in the military afforded him the opportunity to conduct research in over 48 different countries, including making 27 separate trips to Korea where he first visited while serving in the Marines in 1951.

Dr. Kennedy reflected upon his time in the military, including his participation in the battle of Chosin Reservoir, stating that it "defined [him] as the person [he is] today."

After his service, Dr. Kennedy attended Butler University where he played football, earned his bachelor's degree, and started a family.

Dr. Kennedy is a shining example of the honor and devotion that so many of our uniformed servicemen and women exemplify.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Dr. Manert Kennedy. His love for his country and sense of duty and responsibility is something we should all strive to replicate.

SUPPORT FOR THE ARTIFICIAL PANCREAS

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for advancement of the artificial pancreas, a transformative medical technology under consideration at the Food and Drug Administration that would help millions of Americans who suffer from diabetes.

In my home state of Ohio, approximately 900,000 people have diabetes—nearly 10 percent of the state's population. This unforgiving disease is not only the leading cause of kidney failure and adult-onset blindness, it also causes more than 80,000 amputations each year and increases the chance of suffering a heart attack.

The toll of diabetes is not limited to health. Americans spend \$174 billion each year in diabetes-related treatments, with a significant portion of that figure going toward addressing long-term complications. With millions of lives at stake and billions of dollars being spent, this is a disease that demands our attention and we must strive to find better treatments for it until a cure is found.

The artificial pancreas is one such technology that automatically adjusts blood sugar levels for people with type 1 diabetes. With this technology, people will see optimal blood sugar control and as a result, significant reductions in complications associated with type 1 diabetes. Furthermore, an independent study has projected that Medicare will save \$2 billion over 25 years once this technology is finally available to the diabetes community.

Currently, this technology is awaiting draft guidance from the Food and Drug Administration as to how clinical trials can proceed. The

FDA has a self-imposed deadline of December 1st to issue this draft guidance and it is my sincere hope that they will not only meet this goal, but will give full credence to clinical expert recommendations so as to assure that this life-saving technology can safely and quickly be put in the hands of the people who need it.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO COMBAT BULLYING IN SCHOOLS

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, a fundamental principle of our nation's education system is that all schools should provide students with a safe environment that allows them to learn without fear of harassment or discrimination. Unfortunately, we are not doing nearly a good enough job to provide this type of environment for our children, as far too many students go to school every day facing anti-LGBT bullying and discrimination. Allowing this sort of atmosphere to exist anywhere is unconscionable and wrong.

Over the last fifty years, the federal government has taken action to require that all schools receiving federal funds prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, and age. These laws are now in desperate need of updating, in order to expressly protect students from discrimination and harassment on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. This gap has left students and guardians with limited legal recourse in case of discrimination and harassment, and the federal government currently faces a dearth of information on how deep the problem runs. As a result, I am adding my name as a cosponsor to H.R. 998 and H.R. 1648 to help address these issues. While this law would place additional reporting requirements on cash-strapped school districts, I hope the federal government can work with states to share in this burden.

Studies have shown just how detrimental an impact this type of treatment can have on LGBT youth. Among the many potential consequences of anti-LGBT bullying are increased absenteeism, academic underachievement, and serious health consequences. The need for this legislative change has only been made more acute recently, as we have seen far too many tragic deaths arise from the terrors of bullying in schools. I refuse to stand by and let any more suicides occur among students who were not sufficiently protected from harassment at school.

While these bills address discriminatory activities occurring on school grounds, we must also encourage parents in every state to provide safe, healthy environments at home. This

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